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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/609.325

06/27/2003

Vincent S. Darago

5045.2.1D

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20551 7590 03/09/2007
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EXAMINER

HOANG, HIEU T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2152

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/09/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/609,325	DARAGO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hieu T. Hoang	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06/27/2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 86-106 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 86-106 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09/12/2006, 05/20/2005</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to communication filed on 06/27/2003.
2. Claims 1-37 and 86-106 are presented for examination.
3. Claims 1-37 are canceled.
4. Claims 86-106 are pending.

Double Patenting

5. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory

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double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

6. Claim 86 is rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 5, 7, 9, 10, and 12 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,282,573. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claim 86 is just a combination of combination of claims 5, 7, 9, 10, and 12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,282,573.

It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine all the teachings of the individual claims 5, 7, 9, and 12 to claim 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,282,573 in order to implement an e-learning method with metering usage of users for billing purposes.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 86 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiser (US 6,385,596, hereafter Wiser), in view of Schell et al. (US 6,477,648, hereafter Schell).

9. For claim 86, Wiser discloses a method for managing content in a shared use operating environment (abstract), the shared use operating environment including a registration server (fig. 1B media licensing center 110), a content server connectable by a network link to the registration server (fig. 1B content manager 112), and a client workstation connectable by a client-server network communications link to the content server (fig. 1A, client system 126 linked to content manager 112 of fig. 1B), the method comprising the steps of:

- registering a user at the registration server, thereby characterizing the user as a registered user (col. 4 lines 13-14);
- reserving a particular piece of courseware content for a particular registered user (fig. 9AB, request reservation 916);
- receiving at the content server a request by the registered user for access to content which contains at least one previously treated critical portion (col. 9, lines 25-28 and 56-60, delivery server receives requests with a preset consumer certificate);
- authenticating the request (fig. 9BA, authenticate consumer certificate with receipt 946)

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- serving at least the critical portion over the client-server network communications link for presentation to the registered user at the client workstation (col. 9 lines 60-67);
- metering usage of the content by the registered user (col. 4 lines 51-67, the voucher specifies the media being purchased);
- monitoring the client-server network communications link (fig. 6A, fig. 7A, processes on link between web browser 128 and media licensing center 110 or between web browser 128 and content manager 112 are monitored);
- downloading at least one non-critical portion of the content to the client workstation at least two hours before serving the critical portion (col. 3 lines 55-62, low quality media can be previewed anytime which can one or two hours before a purchase the high fidelity version, which involves authorization);
- presenting the registered user with an invoice for usage of the content (col. 5 lines 4-6).

Wiser does not disclose:

- disabling caching and other disk writes to prevent a copy of the critical portion of the content from being created on nonvolatile storage at the client workstation;

However, Schell discloses:

- disabling caching and other disk writes to prevent a copy of the critical portion of the content from being created on nonvolatile storage at the client workstation (col. 2 lines 43-44 and 56-59, disable write to prevent loading or copying of unauthorized sources);

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Wiser and Schell in order to disable write to prevent license information being sent and received or copied at the client's computer (Schell, col. 2 lines 56-59)

10. Claim 87-106 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salesky et al. (US 6,343,313, hereafter Salesky), in view of Wiser.

11. For claim 87, Salesky discloses a method for managing content in an operating environment that includes peer-to-peer nodes which perform as content servers and/or clients (abstract), the method comprising the steps of:

- registering users (col. 2 lines 8-15);
- checking user passwords to prevent unregistered users from receiving content services (col. 2 lines 8-15);

Salesky does not disclose :

- receiving at a node a request by a registered user for access to content which contains at least one previously treated critical portion; and
- serving at least the critical portion over a network communications link to a peer node for presentation to the registered user.

However, Wiser discloses:

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- receiving at a node a request by a registered user for access to content which contains at least one previously treated critical portion (col. 9, lines 25-28 and 56-60, delivery server receives requests with a preset consumer certificate); and
- serving at least the critical portion over a network communications link to a peer node for presentation to the registered user (col. 9 lines 60-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Salesky and Wiser in order to send and receive licensed content as described by Wiser in a conferencing system of Salesky to provide Salesky's system with features such as copyright and intellectual property protection.

12. For claim 88, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the serving step serves digital content that contains at least one musical recording (Wiser, abstract).

13. For claim 89, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the serving step serves digital content that contains visual images (Salesky, col. 3 lines 24-26).

14. For claim 90, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the serving step serves video content (Salesky, col. 3 lines 30-33).

15. For claim 91, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the method delivers content by synchronous sharing (Salesky, col. 3 lines 42-50).

16. For claim 92, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 91. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the method comprises video conferencing (Salesky, col. 3 lines 42-50).

17. For claim 93, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the method delivers content in a real-time manner (Salesky, col. 3 lines 42-50).

18. For claim 94, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the method delivers content in an interactive manner (Salesky; col. 3 lines 42-50, video conference is an interactive application).

19. For claim 95, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the critical portion comprises encrypted content (Wiser, col. 7 lines 27-30).

20. For claim 96, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the critical portion comprises compressed content (Wiser, col. 7 lines 20-25).

21. For claim 97, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the critical portion comprises licensed content (Wiser, col. 10 lines 18-24).

22. For claim 98, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the critical portion comprises content that is compressed and encrypted (Wiser, col. 7 lines 20-30).

23. For claim 99, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the step of disabling use of at least a portion of the content after an expected security handshake is not received (Salesky, col. 10 lines 23-36, audio image data can only be used after being authenticated using public-private keys).

24. For claim 100, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the step of downloading at least a portion of the content to a peer node at least one hour before the serving step (Salesky, col. 9 line 64-col. 10 line 7, prerecorded audio conference for playback some time later).

25. For claim 101, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the method moves content to peer nodes in response to anticipated requests from users (Salesky, col. 9 line 64-col. 10 line 7, anticipated requests are requests for a prerecorded session).

26. For claim 102, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the method moves content to peer nodes in response to actual requests from users (Salesky, col. 7 line 66-col. 8 line 10, attendee sends a command to conference server to obtain the latest image information).

27. For claim 103, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the method operates in conjunction with a license enforcement software program executing on a client node (Wiser, col. 10 lines 13-16).

28. For claim 104, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the method tracks content use in order to create records on which invoices are at least partially based (Wiser, col. 9 lines 40-52).

29. For claim 105, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses the method tracks content location and

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determines whether content is already resident on a peer node at or near a location at which content is requested (Salesky, fig. 10A, client 18(a) requests for conference content from server 14(c), which queries server 14(b), then 14(a) for conference content).

30. For claim 106, Salesky-Wiser discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 87. Salesky-Wiser further discloses only authenticated network users are able to access the content (Salesky, col. 2 lines 8-15).

Conclusion

31. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

32. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hieu T. Hoang whose telephone number is 571-270-1253. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., EST.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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HH



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